

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 642

To support certain national youth organizations, including the Boy Scouts of America, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 16, 2005

Mr. FRIST (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. TALENT, Mr. ENZI, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BURNS, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. SMITH, Mr. VITTER, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, and Mr. NELSON of Florida) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To support certain national youth organizations, including the Boy Scouts of America, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Support our Scouts
5 Act of 2005”.

6 **SEC. 2. SUPPORT FOR YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS.**

7 (a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section—

1 (1) the term “Federal agency” means each de-
 2 partment, agency, instrumentality, or other entity of
 3 the United States Government; and

4 (2) the term “youth organization” means any
 5 organization described under part B of subtitle II of
 6 title 36, United States Code, that is intended to
 7 serve individuals under the age of 21 years.

8 (b) IN GENERAL.—

9 (1) SUPPORT FOR YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS.—No
 10 Federal law (including any rule, regulation, direc-
 11 tive, instruction, or order) shall be construed to limit
 12 any Federal agency from providing any form of sup-
 13 port for a youth organization (including the Boy
 14 Scouts of America or any group officially affiliated
 15 with the Boy Scouts of America) that would result
 16 in that Federal agency providing less support to that
 17 youth organization (or any similar organization
 18 chartered under the chapter of title 36, United
 19 States Code, relating to that youth organization)
 20 than was provided during each of the preceding 4
 21 fiscal years.

22 (2) TYPES OF SUPPORT.—Support described
 23 under paragraph (1) shall include—

24 (A) holding meetings, camping events, or
 25 other activities on Federal property; and

1 (B) hosting any official event of such orga-
 2 nization.

3 **SEC. 3. EQUAL ACCESS FOR YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS.**

4 Section 109 of the Housing and Community Develop-
 5 ment Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5309) is amended—

6 (1) in the first sentence of subsection (b) by in-
 7 serting “or (e)” after “subsection (a)”; and

8 (2) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(e) EQUAL ACCESS.—

10 “(1) DEFINITION.—The term ‘youth organiza-
 11 tion’ means any organization described under part B
 12 of subtitle II of title 36, United States Code, that
 13 is intended to serve individuals under the age of 21
 14 years.

15 “(2) IN GENERAL.—No State or unit of general
 16 local government that has a designated open forum,
 17 limited public forum, or nonpublic forum and that is
 18 a recipient of assistance under this chapter shall
 19 deny equal access or a fair opportunity to meet to,
 20 or discriminate against, any youth organization, in-
 21 cluding the Boy Scouts of America or any group of-
 22 ficially affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America,
 23 that wishes to conduct a meeting or otherwise par-

- 1 ticipate in that designated open forum, limited pub-
- 2 lic forum, or nonpublic forum.”.

○